

**CONFIDENTIAL**

DD/P 3-8042  
DTS 58-846

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Support)

SUBJECT : Stand-by National Censorship Agreement

REFERENCE : Memorandum to DCI from DD/S, subject  
as above

1. Reference and related documents are returned herewith. While the proposed agreement is, as now signed by Mr. McElroy and Mr. Gray, acceptable, two provisions have given rise to some concern on the part of Senior DD/P officers, which I think may be overcome without further addendum or change in the basic document. I am therefore forwarding the present paper in lieu of signing the concurrence line of your memorandum. I do, however, recommend signature of the agreement, provided that consideration be given to the points below. This memorandum may then be considered as constituting DD/P concurrence without further referral.

2. Paragraph 10, Page 2, Section I and Paragraph 10, Page 3, Section II have raised concern as to possible differences in interpretation which could arise in connection with our foreign intelligence liaison in the course of carrying out our responsibilities abroad. We could not properly carry out the responsibilities imposed by the National Security Council if we were, in fact, (1) precluded from acquiring censorship data, in a specific operational context, directly from foreign governments via intelligence channels without reference to some other U.S. Department or Agency, or (2) precluded from arranging, in case of operational need, directly with or through foreign intelligence services, without reference to some other U.S. Department or Agency, for systematic receipt of censorship data acquired by their governments. If, however, the two paragraphs are read as permissive, facilitating provisions as they relate to CIA and not as restrictive of its operational area of action, no problem of interpretation is seen. It is noted in this connection that censorship functions in some governments may very likely be performed by intelligence organizations with which we are or will be in liaison.

3. In view of the above and in the light of recent experience with the intelligence community concerning inter-agency intelligence responsibilities under the National Security Council, it is felt that the responsibilities of CIA would be accounted for and potential ambiguity of interpretation be removed by inclusion of a statement in the DCI's letter of transmittal accompanying the signed agreement, to the effect that nothing in the agreement shall be construed as negating, or conflicting with, the

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responsibilities assigned to the Director of Central Intelligence by the National Security Council or by provisions of the National Security Act of 1947 as amended.

FRANK G. WISNER  
Deputy Director (Plans)

**Attachment**

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